

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 88

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: DAVID KAPLAN

PRESENT POSITION Artist

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: May 12, 1915 Cleveland, Ohio

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: Printmaking - Etching/Drypoint

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.):

John Huntington Polytechnic Institute (Evenings) 1930
Art Students League, N.Y. (Full Time) 1936
Cleveland Institute of Art (Evenings) 1950
Cleveland College (Evenings) 1951
Cleveland Museum of Art Children's Classes 1925

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year):

Cleveland Museum of Art "May Shows" 1938 through 1959
Butler Institute of American Art 1955, 1956, 1957, 1985--Canton Art Institute
1986--Jewish Community Center 1962, 1963, 1984, 1986, 1987--Valley Art Center
1987, 1988--Beck Center 1985, 1986, 1987--MARC Annual Art Show 1985, 1986, 1987
FAVA Gallery 1987--Wichita Art Association 1957

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

South Central Bell Telephone--Bear Stearns & Company--Akron Towel Company
Medusa Cement Company--Tremco Manufacturing Company--Central National
Bank (Society)--Theatrical Restaurant--Central Cadillac Company
Bobbie Brooks Inc.--Park Synagogue--Private Collections

AWARDS:

Cleveland Museum of Art - Honorable Mentions 1947, 1955, 1957
Jewish Community Center - Purchase Award 1987, Special Mentions 1984, 1986
Valley Art Center - Mary Spain Memorial Award 1987, Jurors Mention 1988
MARC Annual Art Show - First in Graphic 1986, 1987, Best of Show 1986
Honorable Mentions 1986, 1987
FAVA Gallery - Special Mention 1987

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

In the "Flight of the Mandarin", The mandarin has undertaken a long journey that starts in the daytime but will take him through the night. The pinwheel he holds provides amusement on the journey as well as assurance as to the strength of the wind that guides his megakite. His journey will be successful, however, since perhaps he too is lighter than air and made of paper? "Flight of the Mandarin" is part of a continuing "Kite Flight" series. My long time fascination with the variety of shape of kites coupled with the impossible, but wonderful to imagine, physical and mental freedom in fancied flight.

Printmaking, particularly intaglio techniques, has become for me a completely engrossing media. It crystallizes a drawing, forcing final decisions throughout the size of the image.

DAVID KAPLAN

DESIGNER I. D. I.

3532 MEADOWBROOK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, CLEVELAND 18, OHIO

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART QUESTIONNAIRE

Page 1 of 2 pages.

Full Name: David Kaplan

Date and Place of Birth: May 12, 1915, Cleveland, Ohio

Art Training:

John Huntington Polytechnic Institute, Cleveland, Ohio

Jewish Center, Detroit, Michigan

Art Students League, New York City

W. P. A., School of Industrial Design, New York City

Cleveland College, Cleveland, Ohio

Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, Ohio

Exhibitions:

21 years of May Shows, Cleveland Museum of Art

Media: Sculpture, Painting, Ceramics, Enamels.

7th, 8th, 9th and 10th Ohio Ceramic and Sculpture Shows

Butler Institute of American Art

Media, Sculpture, Ceramics and Enamels

12th National Decorative Arts and Ceramics Exhibitions

Wichita Art Association, Wichita, Kansas

Media: Enamels

Kirk in the Hills Art Festival, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Media: Enamels

Ohio State Fair

Media: Painting

8th Annual Group Art Show, Jewish Community Center, Cleveland, Ohio

Media: Paintings

Israeli and American Jewish Artists Show, 1957

Butler Institute of American Art

Collections:

Many private collections.

DAVID KAPLAN

DESIGNER I. D. I.

3582 MEADOWBROOK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, CLEVELAND 18, OHIO

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART QUESTIONNAIRE

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Awards:

May Show, 1947: Honorable Mention for Sculpture

May Show, 1955: Honorable Mention for Enameling on Metal

May Show, 1957: Honorable Mention for Decorative Painting

Present Position:

Senior Designer with Leon Gordon Miller and Associates, Inc. Industrial Designers of furniture, products, packaging, graphics and exhibits for museum and retail stores. An active member of the Industrial Designers Institute since 1956.

NAME.....KAPLAN.....DAVID.....-
(last) (first) (middle)

Biographical Material:

Birthplace...CLEVELAND, OHIO.....Date...MAY 12, 1915

Education...3 YEARS AT JOHN HUNTINGTON POLYTECHNIC.....
(1 YEAR LIFE DRAWING WITH ROLF STOLL)
(2 YEAR PORTRAIT PAINTING WITH FRANK WILCOX)
.....
2 YEARS - SUMMER SATURDAY LANDSCAPE CLASSES WITH MR. WILCOX
.....

Special Comments...AFTER ATTENDING 2 YEARS OF THE MUSEUMS.....
SATURDAY CLASSES - WAS SENT TO JOHN HUNTINGTON AT 13
YEARS OF AGE FOR GAST. DRAWING AND WATER LANDSCAPE CLASSES
1 SEMESTER OF TEXTILE AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGN AT A NOW DEFUNCT
WPA DESIGN SCHOOL IN NEW YORK CITY

Awards and Honors (including others than those received in Cleveland)

.....HONORABLE MENTION FOR SCULPTURE "SNAPDRAGON" 29TH MAY SHOW
.....

Affiliations (artists' societies, etc.)

.....NONE.....
.....

Where Represented in Permanent Collections (Among private collections include only large and important)

.....NONE.....
.....

Exhibitions (list by years)

Large Annual Shows...1938 - MAY SHOW.....
1939 " ".....
1940 " ".....
1942 " ".....
1944 " ".....
1945 " ".....
1947 " ".....

One Man.....1943 - ONE MAN - ACCRA, GOLD COAST, BRITISH WEST AFRICA

Special (or Foreign).....1944 - ONE MAN - PAYNE FIELD, CAIRO, EGYPT.....

Bibliography (Books or articles you have written, or books, bulletins, magazines, catalogues in which you are mentioned).....

.....CLEVELAND MUSEUM BULLETIN - MAY 1947.....
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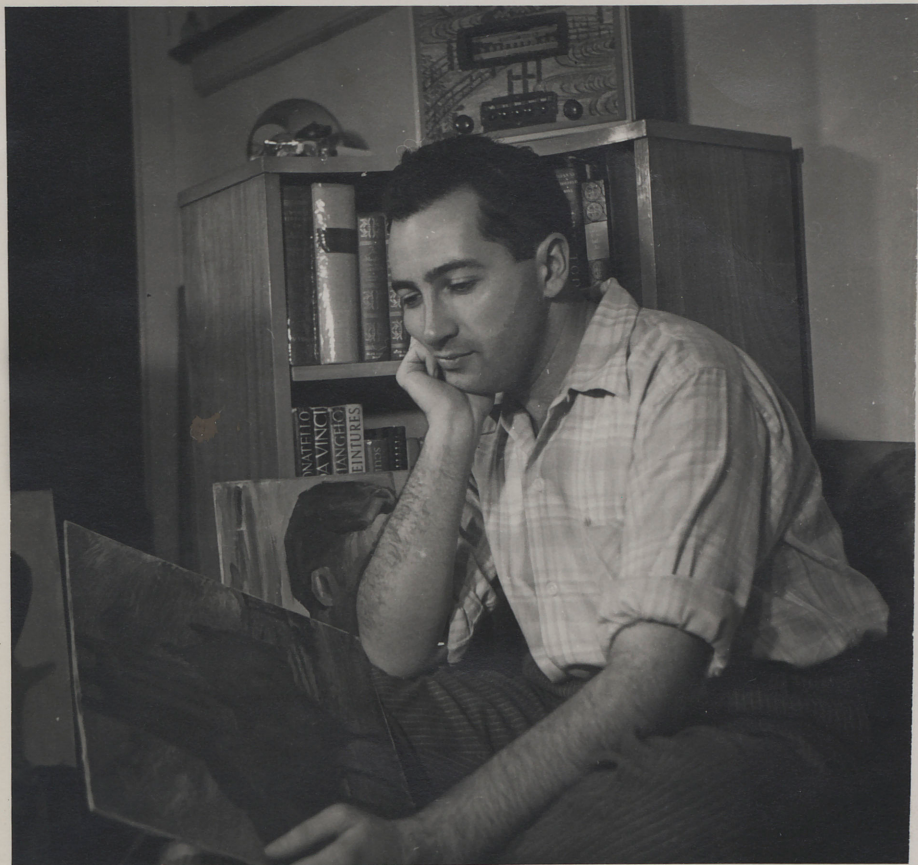


May Show. Biographies -
Kaplan, David

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CLIPPING FILE

'TAPIOLA'
MAHOGANY - 1944



DAVID KAPLAN - 1946

May Show-Biographies-Kaplan, David

David Kaplan

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PLASTER - 1942

May Show - Biographies - Kaplan, David

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GREEK WOMAN - PLASTER - 1946



May Show - Biographies - Kaplan, David

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Sculptor

Another American artist recently in these parts is David Kaplan from Ohio. Although he has exhibited paintings in his native Cleveland Museum of Art and has contributed line drawings to the American Forces Magazine "Yank", his real metier lies in sculpture.

Stationed for a while on the Gold Coast, he tells of his astonishment at catching native woodsmen throwing aside huge chunks of mahogany — each a woodcarver's potential masterpiece. Result: a very tolerable collection of Gold Coast mahogany carvings posted to his Cleveland studio.

Peter Cuddon.

MANY OTHER paintings will lead you into unfamiliar ways with grace and enthusiasm, but I am of the army of the unwashed, esthetically speaking, who like some familiarity. Once again the show is happy because of its scenes of the kingdom of Cleveland. You will enjoy a lithograph of Columbus Rd. ramp (Martin Linsey) and a near-cartoon water color of the southeast corner of Public Square, Hough bus and all ("Downtown," by George Palof). And several of the country highways and romantic farm cottages that, thank the Lord, inevitably turn up to keep the Cleveland mark on this its leading art show.

I AM NOT ABOVE revealing appreciation of the principal nude in the show, a squatting girl with a black ribbon about her neck and a golden twilight bathing her (Jack Burton). Some nudes seem offensive to my unlettered eye, some are bulgy caricatures. This woman is a rather prim nude, with a startled-fawn expression. The portrait is as sweet and decent as any. If there is beauty in the human torso, it is here.

Mostly, the good pictures are by the artists who have made the May Show such a great exhibition year in and year out. I presume the prizes went to all the right canvases, jewelry, ceramics and textiles. If the undersigned were to walk in and in a half hour select a traveling show (which I do believe could be taken from one end of America to the other as a drawing attraction) there would be included such fine things as Rolf Stoll's peonies, Phoebe Flory Walker's hazy blond, Mary Brooks' two paintings of the little girls, Thelma Winter's "Florist" doll with the shoe-button eyes, Hazel Teyral's symbolic jugglers, — her mysticism still sends me — Bill Eastman's Capri facades, George Adomeit's barn in the blue moonlight, William J. Edmonson's green and brown Virginia meadows, Viktor Schreckengost's ruined mansion, and the Gaertner prize landscape of the railroad spur. And David Kaplan's masque of the mad old prophet Jeremiah.

THIS MIGHT NOT BE the best of the show, but in itself would be a fine show and representative of the high class of artists Cleveland has produced. I rather think the critics in the towns visited would call it "true," "dynamic," and "American." Certainly if we would toss in at the last moment a Wilcox canal lock, a Keller colt, and a Sommer red cow.

Go get up your own show. It is good fun.

—N. R. HOWARD

NEWS

MAY 23, 1947 CL

In the CLIPPING FILE NEWS

Pictures must not be too picturesque; nothing astonishes men so much as common sense and plain dealing.—Emerson.

"May Show" Catalog

OUR CITY'S "MAY SHOW," at the Museum of Art, seems to me the best yet. Any one proud of Cleveland, or any fan for the likeable in art, is a fool or a knave if he doesn't see it before the curtain falls after the night of Sunday, June 8. It is not merely that it is so good; 29 years of May shows have given the museum, the "Cleveland school," and the town a prestige in all other American cities little understood by us.

If Washington, Chicago, or Detroit, with their great museums, get 20,000 to see a local show, they die of the excitement. The turnstiles at our show will click on 60,000 today or tomorrow, and \$20,000 worth of pictures and art objects have been sold thus far. With luck the gate will go to 100,000 by the finish.

HERE ARE PICTURES for the common man. The democracy that Cleveland lives within translates itself into pleasant vistas on May Show canvases. I come away always musing on the "liberals," the tolerant men and women, our Cleveland artists must be.

I happen to love the sight of a country cross roads. There are nine or ten country cross roads depicted. I like little tumbled country railroad stations; six of them wait for the rail fans like me, and one (Carl Gaertner's "Pine Point" landscape) captured a first prize.

Speaking of railroad paintings, James Edward Peck has done a landscape of the B. & O.'s "crest of the hill" at Sand Patch, Pa., where its east-west main line tops the Alleghenies. I always ride through at night and never have seen Sand Patch, but lie conscious of the engines ceasing their puffing and starting to coast at that backwoods locality. Now I know what it looks like.

*the
Editor's
Column*

May Show
David Kaplan